

Hawaii MARINE

INSIDE

Vietnam Crash Victims	A-2
Transitional Recruiter	A-4
CSSG-3 Safety	A-4
Every Clime and Place	A-8
MCCS Celebration	B-1
MCCS	B-2
Pali Feature	B-3
Word to Pass/Ads	B-4

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April 19, 2001

EP-3 crew freed, bound for home

Tech. Sgt. Chris Haug
Pacific Air Forces News Service

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE – Crew members of a U.S. Navy EP-3 surveillance plane departed Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, for their home base on Whidbey Island, Wash., April 14, nearly two weeks after a collision with a Chinese jet forcing their emergency landing on China's Hainan Island.

Navy Lt. Shane Osborn, the Navy EP-3 pilot who resettled his

crippled aircraft to a safe landing, said his crew did everything right and had nothing to apologize for when he spoke to reporters April 14 prior to his 24-member crew's departure for their mainland home-base.

Osborn told reporters that his aircraft was flying straight and on auto pilot when a Chinese fighter hit his aircraft.

"I want to thank America, the administration and everyone involved in getting us home so quickly,"

Osborn said. "It was a surprise and we're all glad to be back. We can all be proud of this crew."

Osborn stated that he and his crew made at least 15 mayday calls on an emergency frequency prior to landing on the island, and that he was sure his radio was transmitting. The Chinese government is insisting that the EP-3 crew is at fault for the incident, and that the crew did not have permission to land on the Chinese island.

Osborn said the two Chinese

fighter jets were "harassing" his aircraft by flying within three to five feet of his wing tips several times.

"The pilot of the lost Chinese aircraft pulled up into my number one propeller on his last pass instead of completing his underpass," Osborn said.

He said his aircraft immediately went into a 130-degree roll following the impact. "It almost put us into an inverted dive," he said.

The crew immediately began

emergency procedures to bring the plane back to level, according to Osborn.

He said this process was difficult because the damaged propeller was causing considerable vibrations in the aircraft.

The crew came to Hawaii April 12 to complete their mission, debrief military officials and receive medical evaluations.

All members of the crew are reportedly in good health and uninjured as a result of the accident.

Crash victims returned



Air Force Tech. Sgt. Brian Boone

The remains of seven U.S. servicemen who died in a Vietnamese-operated MI-17 helicopter crash April 7 in Vietnam were flown back to the U.S. onboard an Air Force C-17 Globemaster III from McChord Air Force Base, Wash. The crew of the C-17 carried the remains from Vietnam to Andersen AFB, Guam, and then to Hickam AFB, Hawaii. See page A-2 for the full story.

Spring Concert slated for Saturday

MCB Hawaii Public Affairs
Press Release

The Marine Forces Pacific Band will entertain families with the sounds of Hollywood in a free, open-to-the-public Spring concert April 21 at the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Theater beginning at 4 p.m.

Guest vocalist Cynthia Romero, a featured singer with the band "Salsa Hawaii," has been featured on several local television shows and promises to add an island flair to the Marine Forces Pacific Band's performance.

The band will feature songs including "Disney at the Movies," "All of Me," and "The Movies," and a surprise finale to include audience participation.

Guests of all ages are invited to join in the show.

For more information, contact the Public Affairs Office at 257-8840.

1st Radio Bn. barracks dedicated in ceremony

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

Construction has been completed and Marines are moving into the new 1st Radio Bn. bachelor enlisted quarters on Craig Ave., adjacent to the Anderson Hall Dining Facility.

Construction on the 112-room barracks began in January 2000 and took a total of 14 months to complete. A ribbon-cutting ceremony April 12 officially opened the facility, which will house 224 Marines.

The contract for the barracks was awarded to Dick-Pacific Construction of Honolulu and work was completed at a cost of \$13.5 million.

The new BEQ is a step toward replacing all aging housing facilities, including BEQs, aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, said U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie, who attended the opening ceremony and assisted with the untying of the Maile Lei.

"It is my goal to see that every housing unit or barracks that needs to be replaced is replaced. The men and women of today's armed services, the Marines in particular, are people we need to look out for," said Abercrombie.



Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible

Military officials and state dignitaries partake in the ribbon cutting ceremony marking the opening of the new barracks.

ple we need to look out for," said Abercrombie.

The new barracks feature many improvements over their aging counterparts. These improvements include walk-in closets with motion-sensor lights, full-size refrigerator/freezers, and microwaves.

"The new barracks are a welcome addition that will provide more comfortable accommodations for our Marines and Sailors," said Senator Daniel K. Akaka, who was unable to attend but sent a letter to the Marines and Sailors present.

Replacement of the older, worn-out 1st Radio Bn. barracks is just part of a grand scheme to make assignment to MCB Hawaii a little more pleasant for servicemembers.

"Our mission is to eliminate all substandard bachelor enlisted quarters aboard MCB Hawaii by 2005," said Brig. Gen. R.E. Parker Jr., Commanding General, MCB Hawaii.

With plans such as these, the Marines and Sailors of MCB Hawaii should be able to look forward to great strides in quality of life.

"These barracks are the end product of a truly inspired effort that will improve the quality of life for Marines and Sailors aboard MCB Hawaii," said Brig. Gen. Parker.

Housing office refreshes playgrounds

Sgt. David Salazar
Editor

The MCB Hawaii Housing Department is actively incorporating new additions to base housing areas with the replacement of playgrounds aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, and the Manana Housing Area.

The \$500,000 reconstruction effort, which began in February, is scheduled to replace a total of 16 family housing playgrounds aboard Kaneohe Bay and Manana by this summer, according to J. O. Park, Director, MCB Hawaii Housing Department.

"Most of the playground equipment within family housing areas

is 30 years old or older and no longer meets U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission standards for playground safety, said Park."

In addition to these upgrades, the playgrounds in the "Hana Like" or "802" Housing Area, will also be replaced with new equipment.

According to Ferdinand Madriaga, the base Housing Department architecture technician who is overseeing the reconstruction effort, replacement of the playgrounds will also ensure they are kept functional, due to standardization in their designs. Standardization of the playground design will mitigate "lost time"

with the elimination of "wait time" for unique one of a kind parts to arrive from the manufacturer, said Madriaga. If the department has all needed parts on hand, repairs can be made very quickly. The older models of playgrounds broke frequently, resulting in the department's need to make the facilities off limits until they were fixed.

The new Little Tykes playgrounds boast multiple polyethylene components: slides, panels and roofs, vinyl-coated metal monkey bars, rings and play areas beneath the actual structures. The construction lies on a bed of shredded rubber designed to stay cool and

See PLAYGROUNDS, A-11



Sgt. David Salazar

Base children take advantage of the newly-opened playground on Bancroft Drive aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

KAILUA BEACH CLEANUP

The office of State Representative David Pendleton (R-Kailua) is coordinating the annual “Kokua at Kailua” beach clean up this Sunday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Last year, more than 70 Marines and Sailors participated in the effort. To volunteer, contact Staff Sgt. Luis Valdespino, MCB Hawaii community relations chief at 257-8838.

FAMILY APPRECIATION MEAL AT ANDERSON HALL

Anderson Hall Dining Facility aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is scheduled to host a Family Appreciation Night meal Friday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Servicemembers, their families and DoD civilians are welcome to attend. A discounted rate of \$2.65 for family members of E-4 and below will be charged at the door. All others will be charged \$3.20.

ALL HANDS A-76 BRIEFS

The next All Hands A-76 study meetings are scheduled for today and June 21 at 7:30 a.m. at the base theater. For more information, call the Business Management Office at 257-3188.

HABILITAT NEEDS HELP

Habilitat, a non-profit, non-sectarian substance abuse treatment program, is seeking donations of camouflage utility trousers for their work crews. For information about making individual or unit donations, contact Staff Sgt. Sean Flanary at 257-8824.

NAVY/MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY FUND DRIVE EXTENSION

This year’s Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society fund drive has been extended for two additional weeks. It will now end Friday.

Almost a million dollars in interest-free loans and grants were provided to nearly 2,000 members of our Navy-Marine Corps family in Hawaii. To make a contribution, contact your N/MCRS unit representative, or call the Kaneohe Bay Auxiliary Branch of N/MCRS at 254-1497.

RECON MARINES WANTED

Currently 4th Force Reconnaissance Co. aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, is in search of Marines to fill its ranks. Marines of all military occupational specialties are welcome, but must be willing to change their current MOS to one in the infantry or intelligence occupational fields. Any Marines (enlisted or officer) leaving active duty status and desiring to enter the reserves should contact Staff Sgt. Gerald Rohn at 257-2758 or 257-1077 ext. 221.

JAPANESE WIVES CLUB

The Japanese Wives club meets once a month at the Armed Services YMCA aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. For more information, call Hiroko Hagen at 239-2308.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Base Emergency	257-9111
MPD	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555
Child Protective Services	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852

Hawaii MARINE

Commanding General Public Affairs Director Public Affairs Chief Press Chief Editor	Brig. Gen. R. E. Parker Jr. Maj. Jeffrey Nyhart Gunnery Sgt. Rhys A. Evans Sgt Robert Carlson Sgt. David Salazar
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To contact the MCB Hawaii Public Affairs Office use the following addresses:

Hawaii Marine, Building 216, MCB Hawaii
Kaneohe Bay, HI, 96863
e-mail: hawaiimarine@mcbh.usmc.mil
Fax: 257-2511, Phone: 257-8840

Vietnam helo crash victims arrive at Hickam

Tech. Sgt. Chris Haug
Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — The remains of seven U.S. servicemen who died when a Vietnamese-operated MI-17 helicopter crashed April 7 were honored during a repatriation ceremony here April 13.

The remains were flown onboard an Air Force C-17 Globemaster III from Vietnam to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, and

then to Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

Admiral Dennis C. Blair, commander in chief, of U.S. Pacific Command, spoke at the ceremony and said that the “seven Americans served the United States with particular courage, working to heal the scars of war.”

Following the Hickam ceremony, the remains were taken to the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii for final identification prior to being returned to their families.



Tech Sgt. Chris Haug

Caskets of the seven servicemembers who died in the April 7 helicopter crash over Vietnam lie in wait after arriving at Hickam AFB April 13.

Vietnam crash victims were accomplishing their mission

JTFFA
News Release

The mission of Joint Task Force-Full Accounting (JTF-FA) is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans still unaccounted-for as a result of the war in Southeast Asia. JTF-FA operations include case investigations, archival research, an Oral History Program, and remains recovery operations. The task force was created in response to Presidential, Congressional, and public interest, as well as increased opportunities for case resolution. The opportunities included an increased willingness by the governments of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia to share information they have regarding unaccounted-for Americans, as well as increased access to files, records, and witnesses in their countries.

The task force grew out of the previously established Joint Casualty Resolution Center, an organization that began spearheading U.S. Government accounting efforts in 1973.

As cooperation on the part of the Southeast Asian nations and opportunities for issue resolution increased, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command, established Joint Task Force-Full Accounting on Jan. 23, 1992.

JTF-FA is comprised of 161 investigators, analysts, linguists, and other specialists representing all four military

services and Department of Navy civilian employees. The task force’s operations are supported by casualty resolution specialists, archaeologists, and anthropologists from the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii (CILHI); representatives of the Defense POW/MIA Office; and augmentees from U.S. Pacific Command component commands.

JTF-FA is headquartered at Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, with three detachments located in Bangkok, Thailand; Hanoi, Vietnam; and Vientiane, Laos. The detachment in Thailand also supports operations in Cambodia.

As of 1975, there were 2,583 Americans unaccounted for: in Vietnam 1,923 (425 were lost over water off the Vietnamese coast), 569 in Laos, 81 in Cambodia, and 10 in China.

Not since the release of 591 American prisoners of war during “Operation Homecoming” in 1973 has an American — whose fate was unknown to the U.S. — returned alive from Southeast Asia. Over the years, however, numerous first-hand reports have surfaced concerning Americans alleged to be alive in Southeast Asia. Intelligence organizations have resolved most of those reports through correlation with ac-

counted-for personnel; others have proven to be fabrications. Support of Defense Intelligence Agency investigation and resolution of these live sightings is JTF-FA’s first priority.

Although the U.S. Government has thus far been unable to obtain definitive evidence that Americans are still being detained against their will in Southeast Asia, the information available precludes ruling out that possibility. Therefore, actions to investigate live-sighting reports have and will continue to receive the highest priority.

Archival research is conducted by JTF-FA analysts to determine if any of the materials contained in host-nation files can be correlated to unaccounted-for Americans. Another aspect of JTF-FA’s responsibility is investigating incident-of-loss sites. JTF-FA investigators and linguists examine areas determined to be the position unaccounted-for Americans were known to be lost or last known to be alive. They also interview local villagers and provincial officials to determine if witnesses are available to support the investigation.

The Oral History Program was established to identify and interview higher-ranking individuals who may possess in-

formation related to specific cases. Often these individuals provide names of other individuals who have knowledge of incidents involving Americans. Information obtained through this program has sometimes lead investigators to unresolved crash or burial sites.

Task force specialists also locate and examine crash sites. Many of the unaccounted-for Americans were pilots or other aircrew members who were lost when their aircraft crashed or was shot down.

These excavations are much like archaeological digs; their aim is to recover remains and material evidence, which could help confirm the fate of the aircraft occupants. If a site investigation, witness interview, or crash site survey results in the discovery of remains or material evidence associated with a loss, a recovery operation will be conducted by JTF-FA and CILHI casualty resolution and other operations specialists. The remains are then transported to CILHI, located at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where they undergo forensic examination. Positive identification of the remains through anthropological and pathological analysis is made whenever possible.

Currently, JTF-FA conducts ten Joint Field Activities annually in Southeast Asia — four in Vietnam, five in Laos, and one in Cambodia. Depending

See JTFFA, A-11

All smiles



Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.

Colonel Michael Olson, former deputy commander, MCB Hawaii, and his wife Jane, smile as Brig. Gen. R. E. Parker Jr., commanding general, MCB Hawaii, congratulates them shortly after Col. Olson’s retirement ceremony April 12.

Reserve recruiter gives separating Marines options to ‘stay connected’

Sgt. David Salazar
Editor

Separating Marines who find themselves wanting to “stay connected” to the Marine Corps should know that they have options.

One visit to a certain Marine’s office may bring separating devil dogs abreast of their options to continue to serve.

“I am Gunnery Sgt. William Foster, transitional recruiter — and what I do is recruit separating Marines to continue their service in the reserves,” said the bespectacled Austin native. “I’m also here to dispel rumors about the reserves and keep Marines aware of their options so that they can make an informed decision about their futures.”

According to Foster, knowledge of these options is critical, due to the fact that many Marines are left without the option to reenlist.

“Approximately 25,000 first term Marines hit their (End of Active Service dates) every year — out of those, only five to six thousand are allowed to reenlist,” said Master Sgt. Patrick



Sgt. David Salazar

Gunnery Sgt. William Foster, transitional recruiter, speaks with a Marine about his options in the Marine Corps Reserve.

Buckley, the MCB Hawaii base career planner.

Once Marines have made the decision to “stay connected” to

the Corps, Foster gives them even more options on what reserve program is best for them.

“Many (first term) Marines are unaware of the fact that they are under two separate contracts with the Marine Corps,” Foster said. “One makes them active duty Marines — the other automatically makes them reservists in the Individual Ready Reserve program once they reach their EAS.”

Although Marines are held under this contract, many are unaware of the versatilityes connected with it and the other two reserve programs — the Active Reserve program and the Selected Marine Corps Reserve program. It’s Foster’s job to help the Marine make the best choice for his future plans — whether they entail being close to home, or having the ability to fulfill commitments to a reserve unit from an area far from a Marine base.

After selecting the best program, Foster helps the Leathernecks make their selections happen by aiding them in preparing packages for submission. Whether Marines know they want to continue to serve the Corps after their EAS dates or not, it behooves them to visit Foster’s office.

“It’s important to see what your options are before you get out,” said Cpl. Leo Ramirez, a mortarman with Weapons Co., 1st Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, who spoke to Foster regarding the reserves. “Lots of Marines get out and don’t have a plan. “They should be aware that there are more opportunities for them in the Marine Corps.”

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, contact GySgt. Foster at 257-1251.

Foster also gives reserve briefs at Transition Assistance Management Program briefs and at the Corporals’ Course. He is also available to conduct unit professional military education sessions.



Sgt. Robert Carlson

Five members of each company answered safety-related questions to advance through the rounds of “Safety Company Feud” April 12.

‘Company Feud’ takes unit safety training to new levels

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Press Chief

Combat Service Support Group 3 took time out before the Easter holiday weekend to focus on safety with a game of “Company Feud” at landing zone 216 April 12.

In an effort to ensure its Marines, Sailors and civilians got the message about occupational safety, the safety department at CSSG-3 encouraged participation and motivation during the first-of-its-kind imitation of the game show “Family Feud.”

“Safety is something that affects everyone in the group,” said Sgt. Rudolph B. Frazier, CSSG-3 assistant safety manager. “We thought this would be more effective in getting that message across than a Power Point lecture in the base theater.”

To engage the group in the safety discussion, Frazier set up a single-elimination competition in which five members of each of CSSG-3’s companies answered safety questions to progress through the rounds. The companies provided motivation for the contestants, but they were not allowed to provide the answers to the questions.

Questions covered a wide range of safety topics, and Frazier said that was important because all of the companies

in the group have different missions.

“All of the companies work in different environments, so they have different safety considerations,” explained Frazier. “Even though the motor transport company and the dental clinic have different ways of implementing it, safety means the same thing to everyone.

“Sometimes, the things that are easily overlooked are the things that can cripple or kill Marines,” Frazier said. “We can prevent accidents and injuries by implementing occupational risk management.”

Frazier said the goal of the training was to bring safety to the forefront and get the Marines and Sailors of the group to think about occupational risk management, which includes identifying hazards and devising ways to prevent injuries before actually doing any task.

The competition was unforgiving, with only three questions per round, and Combat Service Support Detachment 79 emerged victorious after defeating Motor Transport Co. in the final round.

After the competition, Col. Paul D. Adams, CSSG-3 commanding officer, emphasized the importance of safety awareness by awarding CSSD-79 a 72-hour liberty pass to be used this weekend.



Sgt. David Salazar

Foster’s mission in the Corps is to provide Marines with valuable information about the Corps’ reserve component.

Chemical agents at Al Muthanna no danger to U.S. troops

Defense News Press Release

A new investigative study concludes that U.S. servicemembers definitely were not exposed to chemical warfare agents resulting from Coalition air attacks on munitions bunkers at the Al Muthanna chemical weapons storage site in Iraq.

A case narrative, “The Gulf War Air Campaign - Possible Chemical Warfare Agent Release at Al Muthanna, February 8, 1991,” was prepared by the Defense Department’s Office of the Special

Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses, Medical Readiness and Military Deployments. The special assistant’s office is tasked with investigating Gulf War incidents related to chemical weapons, environmental exposures and medical factors that might pertain to the undiagnosed illnesses experienced by some Gulf War veterans.

Al Muthanna was the nucleus of Iraq’s entire chemical warfare program and therefore a strategic target for destruction. After the Gulf War, Iraq declared that Coalition air attacks had destroyed sarin-filled 122mm artillery rockets stored in

one bunker at Al Muthanna. Sarin is a nerve agent.

On the night of Feb. 8, 1991, a U.S. F-117 stealth fighter attacked Al Muthanna with a laser-guided bomb. The bomb struck and penetrated Bunker 2, destroying everything within. Post-war inspectors confirmed that the contents of the bunker - not more than 1,500 rockets and packing materials - were totally destroyed.

Intelligence sources estimated that most of the possible nine tons of sarin in the rockets was destroyed by a very hot fire that ensued. Some 10 kilograms were es-

timated to have escaped into the atmosphere.

Computer modeling of the hazard area created by the estimated 10 kilograms of escaped sarin indicated a maximum downwind hazard extending no further than 50 kilometers southeast of Al Muthanna. According to records cited in the report, U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia were no closer than 412 kilometers from Al Muthanna and 388 kilometers south of the nearest point of the downwind hazard area. In addition, no U.S. special operations forces were in the area.

The report concludes there was

no danger to U.S. servicemembers.

Case narratives examine Gulf War incidents that might have involved chemical warfare agents. They are part of DoD’s efforts to inform the public about its investigations into the nature and possible causes for the illnesses experienced by some Gulf War veterans.

This narrative, and all other publications of the Office of the Special Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses, Medical Readiness and Military Deployments, is posted on the GulfLINK website at http://www.gulfink.osd.mil/al_mu th.

Holocaust survivor recalls grim details of life in concentration camps

Rudi Williams American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — “With the Nazis, you couldn’t be courageous enough, strong enough, rich enough or smart enough to survive the Holocaust. It was just a matter of luck,” Tania Marcus Rozmaryn told her audience here.

The 72-year-old Polish immigrant participated recently in the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s “First Person” program, which features personal accounts by Holocaust survivors.

When the Germans invaded Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, triggering World War II, Rozmaryn said, she and her family were living in the Polish town of Smorgonie. She had just finished the fourth grade.

Sixteen days later, the Soviets occupied Smorgonie and implemented communist policies, seizing businesses, assets and valuables. They converted the Jewish school into a Soviet school and taught classes in Russian. On June 22, 1941, the German army invaded the Soviet Union and occupied Smorgonie the same day.

Rozmaryn and her mother, sister and brother fled eastward to Lebedev, but they were captured by the Germans. She would learn later that her father had been executed by an SS mobile killing squad.

Forced into the Smorgonie ghetto, the Marcuses were transported to the Kovno ghetto two years later.

Rozmaryn said in March 1944 the Nazis shot more than 1,000 young children at Kovno, including her nine-year-old brother, Nathan.

“I can’t figure out why I was so lucky to survive,” Rozmaryn told the audience. “I guess because I should be able to bear witness and to tell what happened so it should



Rudi Williams

Tania Marcus Rozmaryn, a Holocaust survivor, holds a plaque presented to her after speaking at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.

never, ever, ever happen to anyone else in the future.”

She said she’ll never forget the day the Nazis dragged children down the stairs into the street and bayoneted them to death. This was one of her last memories of the ghettos, fenced-off areas where Jews were held.

She remembers being herded onto a barge and being held there 10 days in the burning sun with only pieces of bread and water to eat. When they reached Stutthof, Germany, they were loaded onto freight trains and taken to the concentration camp there. The camp was outfitted with a gas chamber and crematory for the killing of Jews, gypsies and cap-

tured resistance fighters from Holland, Belgium and France.

“When they opened the doors, the first thing was the smell of burned flesh and burned bones,” Rozmaryn said. “That’s when we realized that we were at a concentration camp and a crematorium.”

About 500 prisoners were taken to a large hall and stripped of their possessions. The men and women were separated.

“People were kissing and hugging and saying goodbye, because we knew this was our last journey. This was the end,” Rozmaryn said.

It was the end for thousands of prisoners, but not the Marcus women. Rozmaryn, her mother and sister survived some of the most inhumane treatment and conditions of the war. Her mother died only about three years ago at age 95. Her sister lives in Israel.

She said one day at the camp, the Germans took 5,000 people to a labor camp to dig huge ditches that were camouflaged to trap Russian tanks. But the prisoners had to first survive going through a gate where the head of the camp was standing.

“If he didn’t like someone, he’d shoot them or send the dogs to rip the person to pieces,” she said. “They put the bodies on a pile to be taken to the crematorium in a horse-drawn cart.”

As she, her mother and sister approached the gate, the German grabbed her and threw her on the pile of old people and children.

“It’s beyond comprehension or any explanation, but I felt like an angel took me by my hand,” she recalled. “I got up from the pile and walked over to the head of the concentration camp. He looked down at me and I told him ‘I’m just a little girl, but I’m very strong and I work hard.’ I told him, ‘There is my mother and sister over there.’

“All of a sudden, I saw a flicker in his eyes,

and he grabbed me by the neck, pushed me through the gate, yelling in German, ‘OK, little girl, run to your mother,’” she said. “When I went on the other side of the gate, my mother and sister literally saw me come back from the dead.”

The prisoners dug ditches until they were taken on a final death march on Jan. 18, 1945. “They told those of us who were still alive that we were leaving. Many people had frozen to death, many died of typhoid and diphtheria or were killed,” Rozmaryn said.

They marched all day in below-zero weather with snow and ice on the road. Those who couldn’t keep up were shot; others died from disease or froze to death.

“Both sides of the road was covered with bodies or blood,” she said. “At night they put us in an empty high school or in barns, and gave us a piece of bread. We huddled up with the cows to keep warm. We were so hungry. Everybody was looking through trashcans for food when we marched through a village.

“One day, my mother found a marrow bone and gave it to my sister to suck on because she was the weakest,” she said.

Finally reaching another concentration camp, they were turned away because the camp was full. They were taken to a small airport, where more than 1,000 people were already being held.

Rozmaryn contracted typhus and lost consciousness. She screamed when she woke up in a bed with sheets, pillows and a nice room with curtains. Her mother and sister told her the crisis was over. “My mother said, ‘We’re liberated! The Russians liberated us!’” Rozmaryn exclaimed.

That was on March 23, 1945.

Rozmaryn said every day in the ghetto and concentration camp was a bad day. For her,

See SURVIVOR, A-9

Commissary customers savor ‘Best Value Item’ program

Bonnie Powell
Marketing Business Unit

FT. LEE, Va. — Commissary customers are stretching their paychecks further by shopping Best Value Items. That’s a fact.

“Sales are meeting or exceeding our expectations and customer response has been phenomenal,” said Major General Robert J. Courter, Jr., Defense Commissary Agency Director.

“Feedback from recent commissary focus groups indicates that customers are aware of the program and are taking advantage of the savings,” Maj. Gen. Courter said. “We’ve had comments such as ‘I used to use a calculator to shop and now I don’t have to!’ and many young service members say they are only buying Best Value Items, rather than store brands downtown.”

DeCA launched the Best Value Item program in July 2000 in response to feedback from young, active duty military members and their spouses who attended commissary focus groups. “They told us we needed to offer quality products that match or beat ‘store brand’ products downtown. We heard them and responded,” said Maj. Gen. Courter.

“The Best Value Item program complements existing commissary sales promotions and ‘Power Buys’ and is part of our overall strategy to improve savings for our customers.”

The program includes popular



DeCa Photo

Retired Navy SEAL and “Survivor” series star Rudy Boesch promotes the commissary benefit for the military. He is pictured here on a poster for the Best Value Item program. Boesch also stars in a video on commissary shopping aimed primarily at young service members. Boesch has been a devoted shopper for almost 50 years.

categories such as diapers, baby food, paper goods, chilled and frozen foods, and grocery items. Best Value Item signs indicate the lowest price found on commissary shelves as well as the lowest price (for the same size item, national or store brand) at grocery stores, supermarkets or super centers.

“We’re very happy with the customer response to the program,” said Bruce Dubisar, Best Value Item program manager for DeCA. “We started with 100 items and have increased to about 400. Our intention now is to concentrate on expanding product selection where there is a significant demand for ‘store brands,’ but still maintain about 400 items.

According to DeCA Marketing Business Unit Category Manager Alan Flowers, the savings on Best Value Items can be much greater than the average commissary savings of 29 percent.

“For example, the manufacturer reduced the price on the Best Value margarine by an additional 17 percent for the program,” said Flowers. “Comparing DeCA’s price against the average retail food chain price, the estimated customer savings on this particular Best Value Item amounted to about \$66,000 overall during the last three months of 2000.”

“We’re striving to satisfy the customer through increased savings,” said Maj. Gen. Courter. “The Best Value Item program is just one initiative designed to support our strategic goal of efficiently and ef-

fectively delivering the premier quality of life benefit for our military.”

The customer information campaign on Best Value Items is ongoing with an “infomercial” produced to air on installation command channels.

Commissary customers are being greeted at the door by a new Best Value Item poster featuring “Survivor” TV series star and retired Navy SEAL Rudy Boesch. The poster encourages shoppers to “Look for the Best Value Items. That’s what I buy!” An in-store radio advertisement also features Rudy’s comments on Best Value Items.

Boesch, a lifelong and devoted commissary shopper, donated his time to help inform military members about their commissary benefit. An informational video “Commissary 101 with Rudy Boesch” is now in wide circulation to encourage young shoppers, families and single servicemembers to use their benefit.

The video includes a segment on Best Value Items and has been shown on single service member tours during the 2001 Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Commissary Awareness Campaign.

“Customers will also start noticing blinking lights on some of the Best Value Item signs,” said Dubisar. “Those are being purchased by manufacturers through a supplier and are simply an additional way to help customers identify Best Value Items.”

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

11th MEU (SOC) aids East Timor government transition

Staff Sgt. Donald E. Preston
11th MEU Public Affairs

DILI, EAST TIMOR – The 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) and Boxer Amphibious Ready Group arrived here April 9 to begin three days of humanitarian and civic assistance in support of East Timor’s transition to independence.

In concert with the U.S. government’s ongoing commitment to East Timor, 11th MEU(SOC) /Boxer ARG deployed more than 350 Marines and Sailors daily from the USS Boxer (LHD-4), USS Harper’s Ferry (LSD-49) and USS Cleveland (LPD-7) to several locations in East Timor to conduct medical and dental assistance, air and sea lift of humanitarian supplies and assist in community relations projects around the island.

Nearly two years prior to the ARG’s visit, East Timor was beset by civil strife after a vote for independence from Indonesia spurred members of various militia groups to incite violence throughout East Timor. As forces looted and torched homes and businesses and killed innocent civilians, thousands of East Timorese fled from their homes into the mountains and across the border into neighboring West Timor.

To restore order and facilitate humanitarian assistance, the United Nations established International Forces, East Timor (INTERFET) to halt the violence in East Timor.

Once order was restored, INTERFET was replaced by the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, created to assist East Timor in its transition to self-government. Additionally, United States Support Group East Timor (USGET) was created to coordinate activities of U.S. Forces rotating through the area with UNTAET and its military Peace Keeping Forces.

Currently commanded by Air Force Col. Steven E. Hoarn, the USGET staff of 12 personnel drawn from the Marines, Navy, Air Force and Army, provides the vital framework for units such as 11th MEU (SOC) and the Boxer ARG. “With the arrival of the 11th MEU and Boxer ARG we will engage in the largest, most aggressive, three-day

program my staff has ever encountered,” Hoarn said. “It proves that the vision for USGET to leave a big and positive footprint despite not having a large permanent presence is possible.”

The footprint brings with it the 11th MEU(SOC) and Boxer ARG’s ability to provide needed medical and dental care, the tools and expertise for construction projects and the aircraft to move needed supplies and donated goods to isolated areas throughout East Timor.

Before the three ships of the Boxer ARG arrived in East Timor, 11th MEU(SOC)’s medical and dental personnel, assigned to the forward command element arrived in country to provide initial care to East Timorese patients at various sites on the island.

“It’s a unique opportunity for us to be here because there is so little medical care available in East Timor,” Navy Lt. Marc H. Seidman, general medical officer, Battalion Landing Team 2/1. “We’ve shown up in villages without medical care available. We’ve seen untreated malaria, tuberculosis and even leprosy. Hopefully our visit will make a difference for some of these East Timorese people.”

After the arrival of the 11th MEU (SOC) and Boxer ARG, medical and dental care expanded to three clinics in Dili and one on the eastern end of East Timor in the town of Los Palos.

During the three-day period more than 900 patients were seen by doctors, 243 patients were seen by dentists, and more than 160 eyeglasses were prescribed and donated.

While the medical and dental personnel were busy on the ground, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 268 (Rein) was busy in the air. Flying more than 165 sorties with a combination of aircraft, 11th MEU(SOC)’s aviation combat element moved personnel and supplies to numerous locations throughout East Timor to include 165 tons of supplies and food.

“This is a significant achievement,” said Capt Francis G. Gala, CH-46E pilot, HMM-268 (rein). “Due to the short period of time in respect to the amount of material, distances involved and challenging

landing zones.”

Some of the materials flown ashore were used to repair schools and community centers. Dare Elementary School, located on a steep hillside above Dili, was one of the schools and was considered a severe risk to the safety of children.

“I wouldn’t have sent my kids there at all,” said LCpl Mark Hagan, Romeo Battery, BLT 2/1. “There weren’t any rails along the stairway and hazardous debris like glass and metal were all around the front of the school. By the end of the third day, there was a significant improvement.”

Identifying projects such as Dare Elementary School was coordinated by USGET who worked with Non-Governmental Organizations such as Timor Aid, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Program (WFP).

The Boxer ARG hovercraft (Landing Craft Air Cushioned) transported more than 80 metric tons of rice, grain and corn sourced from NGO’s to several areas of East Timor. The largest sealift operation included a 200-nautical mile round trip to Oecussi Enclave by three LCACs.

Additionally, U.S. donations collected through Project Handclasp were delivered by Marines and Sailors of the 11th MEU (SOC) and Boxer ARG to the Timor Aid Foundation, for distribution to different organizations and schools.

“We want to try to get it out to the hills where they don’t have as much,” said Angus Cooper, Timor Aid. “Having the Navy and Marine Corps has been great for us. What would have taken us five days to transport to these villages has only taken two hours, thanks to the work done by your Navy and Marine Corps here.”

While Marines and Sailors were ashore carrying out the numerous missions, more than 200 people visited the USS Boxer, to include 1996 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Jose Ramos Horta, currently serving the National Council, the umbrella organization created to unite the main independence groups in East Timor.

Smiling faces were common for the East Timorese who visited the USS Boxer as well as those who watched or worked with the



Staff Sgt. Donald Preston

Navy Lt. Marc H. Siedman, general medical offices, Battalion Landing Team 2/1, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) examines a patient at AMI medical clinic in Dili, East Timor, during the unit’s deployment there to aid the community during its transition to democracy.

Marines and Sailors at the various sites.

In some cases, Marines and Sailors received small gifts or firm hand shakes from East Timorese expressing gratitude for the opportunities and accomplishments 11th MEU(SOC) and Boxer ARG brought with them.

“The performance of all the Marines and Sailors was superb,” said Col. Charles S. Patton, commanding officer, 11th MEU(SOC). “Marines and Sailors from 11th MEU(SOC) and the Boxer ARG safely and professionally per-

formed three days of humanitarian assistance operations in the developing country of East Timor. Everyone, from those who went ashore, to those remaining behind on the amphibious ships, played a vital and important role which has enriched our lives and brought many smiles of thanks to the impoverished people of East Timor.

“There was so much need, we could not possibly accomplish the many tasks during our brief stop, but without a doubt everyone worked with the gusto and belief that we could.” Col. Patton added.



Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible

Christopher H. Lambert, an Oceanside High cadet, uses every ounce of strength in his body to fight his way over a wall on the obstacle course.

Oceanside cadets get a taste of K-Bay training

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible
Combat Correspondent

Twenty-six cadets from the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Oceanside High School in Oceanside, Calif., came to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay for their Spring Break Training Camp for April 7 to April 14.

The camp is a program intended to boost the cadets’ morale and confidence and to show them what the military has to offer.

It gives them a chance to see real Marines and experience parts of Marine Corps life, said retired 1st Sgt. Hector Rodriguez, an Oceanside High Marine instructor.

Cadets were treated to many experiences unique to a Marine Corps Base. They ate their meals in the mess hall, lived in squad bays and spent the majority of their time in the utility uniform.

The cadets also trained like Marines. They spent a day conquering the obstacle course, another day exercising

their minds and their teamwork at the leadership reaction course and a day in the waters of the K-Bay pool, learning the basics of water survival.

Some of the ways in which the cadets were shown what the military has to offer was the numerous demonstrations and displays they witnessed.

The cadets were shown the inner workings of a CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter and a selection of tactical vehicles, including “humvees” used aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

The Marines of the Marine Corps Air Facility’s Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting department delighted the cadets with a demonstration of fire-fighting techniques.

K-Bay offered quality training and a change of scenery to the students and helped to improve their capabilities as MCJROTC cadets.

“The training helps to boost self-confidence in the cadets,” said Rodriguez. “We came to Hawaii this year because we go to bases in California every year and the students wanted to go somewhere different.”

The students also appreciated the training and the way it help them mature and become more confident.

“The training gave me a lot of self-confidence. It showed me that when there is an obstacle I don’t think I can get over, there is a way. It is a good metaphor for life,” said Cadet 1st Lt. Teresa Ogletree, the MCJROTC company executive officer.

Following the training portion of their visit, the cadets were treated to some rest and relaxation around the island.

The students’ chaperones took them on a tour of the USS Arizona Memorial and gave time to relax and explore Waikiki.

“The island is a beautiful place. “The whole island seems so amazing, especially because it has so much history to it at places like Pearl Harbor,” commented Ogletree.

The Oceanside High School cadets boarded their plane home Saturday with more confidence and a greater appreciation for the men and women of the armed services.



Photo courtesy of Tania Marcus Rozmaryn

Rozmaryn was but 12 years old when Nazi forces invaded her Polish hometown and took her family to a concentration camp in Stutthof, Germany.

SURVIVOR, From A-6

the two worst of the war were the days she found out the Nazis had killed her father and her nine-year-old brother, she said later during an interview.

The aim of the Germans was to humiliate, degrade — mentally, emotionally, intellectually, she said. The Nazis knew that if they could degrade people in those ways, they could do whatever they wanted with them, Rozmaryn said.

After the war, she became a Hebrew teacher in several Jewish displaced persons camps in Germany. She emigrated to the United States on Oct. 20, 1950, aboard an Army ship. By then, she was married and had an eight-month-old son.

“I didn’t speak English and didn’t have a penny to my name,” Rozmaryn said. “And we didn’t have a place to stay.”

The family found help and a place to live in Brooklyn.

“I worked in a sweatshop sewing patches on jackets for \$35 a week.”

She went to night school to learn English. Rozmaryn decided she wanted to be a teacher, and though she’d only completed the fourth grade before the war, she persuaded the dean of the Teachers Institute for Women at Yeshivah University of Greater New York to give her a chance. After three years at Yeshivah, she graduated summa cum laude. Eight years later, the university presented her its teacher of the year award.

“I’m still teaching,” said Rozmaryn, who holds a master’s degree in counselor of education and another in marriage and family counselor. She teaches at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School in Rockville, Md.

Rozmaryn educated her two children and grandchildren in the Jewish legacy and modern orthodox way. By doing so, she said, she denied Hitler’s goal.

“He wanted the final solution to be the annihilation of the Jewish culture and the Jewish people,” she noted. “I can’t give Hitler his victory over the Jews posthumously.

“I consider myself extremely lucky to be one of the Holocaust survivors,” Rozmaryn said. “I’m extremely grateful to the United States government for inviting me to immigrate to this wonderful country and being afforded all the opportunities for me and my children.”

This week is the National Holocaust Days of Remembrance observance. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum website at www.ushmm.org/dor-dates.htm has more information about the observation.

‘Club drugs’ a growing problem for Oahu servicemembers

Sgt. Richard W. Holtgraver Jr.
Combat Correspondent

Officials of the Substance Abuse Counseling Center, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are concerned about the rising use of the drug “Ecstasy” by servicemembers at dance clubs, dance parties and “Raves.”

With increased tourism on Oahu during the summer months, the additional money vacationers bring to the island tends to bring out certain elements in the night life that could get unwary Marines and Sailors into more trouble than they need, according to Staff Sgt. Martin D. Howard, impact coordinator for the SACC.

“These drugs are becoming a major threat to Marines and Sailor because they are so easy to get here on Oahu,” said Howard. “We’ve had to modify our substance abuse presentations, and include medical personnel to give information on the effects of Ecstasy on the body.”

Methylenedrioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) has several street names such as Adam, Essence, XTC and Ecstasy.

MDMA was first patented in 1914 by a German drug manufacturer and acts as a stimulant and hallucinogen.

Ecstasy is a Schedule I synthetic, psychoactive drug under the Controlled Substances Act, meaning it is illegal to manufacture, sell or use this drug.

It is taken orally, usually in tablet or capsule form, and its effects last anywhere from four to eight hours.

People who have used the drug say emotionally it produces profoundly positive feelings, empathy for others, eliminates anxiety and causes extreme relaxation.

Physically, users of Ecstasy experience an increase in sensory activity where touching and rubbing are reportedly more pleasant.

When people use Ecstasy, their pupils dilate, their mouth and throat will feel dry, their heart rate and blood pressure increase, their jaws often “tense-up” and they tend to sweat more.

Other side effects include: hallucinations, nausea, tremors, chills, muscle cramping, blurred vision, heat exhaustion and possibly death.

The largest danger Ecstasy users must be wary of is the body overheating, according to Howard.

“One girl who died from using one tablet of Ecstasy had a core body temperature of 103 degrees three hours after she died,” said Steven L. Jensen, drug reduction coordinator for SACC.

Drinking a lot of water is a big misconception ravers have about battling the side-effects of Ecstasy.

“You can drink all the water in the world, but it doesn’t matter if your heart is still beating at a death-threatening rate for hours and hours,” informed Howard.

The long-term effects of Ecstasy are only just beginning to undergo scientific analysis.

In 1998, the National Institute of Mental Health conducted a study of a small group of habitual MDMA users who were abstaining from use.

The study revealed that the abstinent users suffered long-term damage to the neurons in the brain that transmit Serotonin, an important biochemical the brain uses for learning, sleep and the integration of emotions.

The results of the study indicated that

recreational MDMA users might be at risk of developing permanent brain damage that may manifest itself in depression, anxiety, memory loss and other neuropsychotic disorders.

In the in the 1960s and 70s, Ecstasy was a legal prescription drug popular with therapists who often used it to facilitate psychotherapy sessions.

“Some therapists were using MDMA during therapy session for patients experiencing depression,” said Jensen. “The patients would feel good for a little while after the therapy, but the effects are only temporary and they would slip back deeper into clinical depression following the drug use. This produced a continuing circle of therapy and drugs that kept patients dependent on their therapists.”

This practice caused much controversy, and MDMA was placed on the Schedule I drug list by the Drug Enforcement

Tips to keep safe from Ecstasy

Marines and Sailors should follow some simple rules when they go out to dance clubs, or raves:

- Know and trust the people with whom they go.
- Do not leave drinks unattended (It is common practice at raves to spike someone’s drink. Women should pay particular attention to this, because of the popular use of “date rape drugs.”)
- Always use the buddy system.
- Be careful of “gateway drugs”, like alcohol. This drug tends to diminish good judgment.
- If under the age of 21, do not drink alcohol.
- Make sure to carry a card with the command telephone numbers on it.
- Take plenty of money for a taxi ride back to the base.
- Say no to any kind of drugs.
- Don’t listen to “barracks lawyers” about how to beat urinalysis testing.

Agency in 1985.

The past decade has seen an increase in the use of Ecstasy with some of America’s youth for a variety of reasons, according to Howard.

At raves, the drug acts as a social uninhibitor that makes it easy for the users to approach people, and start conversations, and

touch each other without the fear of rejection, says Howard.

It’s cheap to manufacture and smuggle MDMA into the United States, and only recently have there been any seizures of shipments by the DEA.

The popularity of Ecstasy use by members of the military has grown in recent years as well.

With many Marines and Sailors under the drinking age, dance clubs and raves are popular ways for them to go out and have a good time on the weekends.

“A high percentage of the people who go to these clubs and parties are in some way connected to drugs,” estimated Howard. “Whether it’s using or dealing, the drugs are there, and everyone knows it.”

Howard also realizes that a majority of the Marines and Sailors attending these clubs and parties are there to have a good time dancing, and not to use drugs.

But, he warns that these drugs and the people that deal them can still pose a threat to a servicemember’s career.

“One of the reasons this is such a problem for today’s youth and young servicemembers is because this drug is easier to get a hold of than alcohol,” said Howard.

Easy access of various drugs is what is getting servicemembers into trouble, according to Howard.

“Another club drug is Gammaa-Hydroxybutrate (GBH). It is known by many slang names, but it is largely known as the date-rape drug. It is colorless and odorless when mixed with a drink,” said Howard. “This means a person would never know if something has been slipped into their juice, water or soda at a dance club.”

Howard knows Marines and Sailors are going to go to these clubs and parties. So he warns people of dangers and things to look out for while having a good time out in town.

For more information on Ecstasy, raves and substance abuse, call the base Substance Abuse Counseling Center at 257-1720 or 257-3900.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Attention, Karaoke contestants!

A karaoke contest will be held again this year as part of Hawaii Military Appreciation Week (May 17-23), sponsored by the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce and several local corporate sponsors.

Preliminaries will be held by each service. All ranks (and their spouses) are welcome to compete in the preliminary contest at K-Bay, to be held in Tun Tavern at the Enlisted Club on May 3, beginning at 8 p.m.

Interested contestants may contact Lisa Thomas, E-Club Manager, at 254-7660, or Araceli Tezuka, of K-Bay Catering, at 257-0905 for more details.

The karaoke contest finals competition will be held at Bishop Museum from noon to 2 p.m., on May 20, as part of the museum’s “Family Sunday/Military Day” festivities.

Hawaii Military Appreciation Week 2001 events

May 5, Military Night at Paradise Cove (luau dinner show; discounted tickets for military.)

May 17, 6 p.m., Opening Ceremony dockside at the USS Missouri (ceremony open to the public; reception following the event is by-invitation-only, aboard the USS Missouri.)

May 19, 7:30 a.m., 5th Annual 1stMAW/ASE Triathlon/Duathlon at MCB Hawaii K-Bay (open to military and civilian athletes; race observation and displays of military aircraft and equipment open to public.

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., “A Capital Day Down Capitol Way 2001.” The day will include free tours of State Capitol/historic buildings downtown.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. “Living History Day” at the Hawaii Army Museum

at Ft. DeRussy. The U.S. Army Museum will host 200 years of military history. Various groups will gather at the historic Battery Randolph, Ft. DeRussy, next to the Hale Koa Hotel to commemorate, educate, entertain, and present hands-on exhibits of weapons, equipment and insignia relating to different periods of history, from the Civil War through Vietnam.

Military night at the Polynesian Cultural Center (discounted for military; annual Fire-Knife Dance Championships) Time to be announced.

May 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. “Family Sunday/Military Day” at Bishop Museum

May 21, Military Spouses’ Reception at I’olani Palace
Military Night at the Hale Koa Luau Dinner Show (discounted tickets for military) Time to be announced.

May 23, noon to 1:30 p.m.,

Annual Recognition Luncheon at the Hawaiian Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel.

Watch for more details on HMAW in upcoming issues of The Hawaii Marine.



Everything

Rock Band “Everything” comes to K-Bay

A free concert is scheduled for April 28 at 8 p.m. at the E-Club aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Rock group, “Everything”

will be featured, playing their hit song “Who’s got the Hooch?” Local rock / alternative group, “Rail” will also perform later that night.

The Harlem Ambassadors Show comes to Pearl Harbor

One of America’s greatest basketball shows performed by the internationally-acclaimed “Harlem Ambassadors” will be showcased at Pearl Harbor’s Bloch Arena Gymnasium April 28 at 7 p.m.

The two-hour show is open to the public and offers clean yet fun entertainment for the entire family to enjoy.

The event is free for active duty with military ID and children 5 and younger, \$4 for adults (13 and older) and \$3 for 6-12 years old. Tickets are available at Pearl Harbor ITT Office or at the door. Doors open for seating at 6:30 p.m.

PLAYGROUNDS, From A-1

absorb impact in the event a child falls during play.

The refurbishing of playgrounds within housing areas will provide younger children activities to partake in, according to Park. “We have basketball courts and the skate park for the older children, but there are very few play areas for children ages 5 – 12 of age.”

The locations of the playgrounds also adds to their convenience.

“Unless families live near the Super Playground (near McDonald’s), there wasn’t really an area where children could go and participate in creative free play activities these new playgrounds offer,” Park said.

Perhaps the most practical aspect of the new playgrounds is not their locations, but their mobility, said Madriaga. With MCB Hawaii’s myriad of construction efforts, these playgrounds must have the ability to be relocated so as not to interfere with surrounding construction projects.



Sgt. David Salazar

Destiny DiGiovanni looks through the periscope, one of the many features on the new playgrounds.

“We had to ensure these playgrounds can be relocated to maximize their use,” Madriaga said.

Six new playgrounds are currently installed and open for use, four on MCBH, Kaneohe Bay and two in the Manana Housing area. All 16 playgrounds are scheduled for completion this June. Until their completion, the department asks that children not play near or within playground construction sites.

“There’s no way we can check all playground equipment on a daily basis,” Madriaga said. “We need the assistance of parents and neighborhood communities to report problems with playground equipment as soon as noticed. This will enable the department to address and repair damages as quickly as possible.”

For information regarding the new playgrounds, contact the MCB Hawaii Housing Dept. at 257-1257 ext. 207. When reporting damaged playground equipment (new or old models), contact the MCB Hawaii Housing Dept. Maintenance Desk at 254-5585.

JTFFA, From A-2

on the requirements, team composition can range from 30 to 95 personnel. Counting deployment and redeployment time, each Joint Field Activity lasts approximately 35 days.

Since its inception in 1992, Joint Task Force-Full Accounting has conducted

more than 3,400 case investigations and 590 recovery operations, which have led to the repatriation of more than 500 sets of remains believed to be unaccounted-for Americans.

JTF-FA investigators and analysts have also answered countless questions about what happened to many of those whose fate was previ-

ously unknown. Many questions remain, some of which may never be fully answered, but Joint Task Force-Full Accounting is resolved to continue the investigation and recovery efforts until the fullest possible accounting is achieved.

Currently the number of unaccounted-for in Southeast Asia is 1,981.

Sunrise serenade



Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible

First Lt. Justin B. Stodghill, training officer for 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Aviation Support Element Kaneohe, performs a medley of Psalm 23 and Amazing Grace during the Easter Sunrise Service Sunday at the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Range Training Facility.

SALUTES

1st Radio Bn.
*Navy/Marine Corps
Commendation Medal*
Staff Sgt. Cardwell

*Navy/Marine Corps
Achievement Medal*
Staff Sgt. Elaine M. Bergman
Sgt. Jeffrey A. Dintelman
Sgt. Harris L. Nussbaum Jr.
Lance Cpl. Peter L. Pohl
Petty Officer 3rd Class
Honey Dhaliwal

HQBn., MCB Hawaii
*Navy & Marine Corps
Achievement Medal*
Gunnery Sgt. Todd W. Caton
Sgt. Albert A. Alonzo
Sgt. Scott M. Kimsey
Sgt. Teresa A. Pannell
Cpl. Kerry B. Abernathy
Cpl. Miguel A. Acosta
Cpl. Kenneth W. Daniel
Cpl. Jaime Fierro Jr.
Cpl. Sungmin Kim

*Certificates of
Commendation*
Cpl. Marcella R. Cholletdigman
Cpl. Kyle G. Rooney
Lance Cpl. Carol A. Cardona
Lance Cpl. Rachel L. Darmsteadt
Lance Cpl. Dana Legette
Lance Cpl. Jacob A. Nelson

Lance Cpl. Brian M. Thayer
PFC Theresa R. A. Martinez

Meritorious Mast
Cpl Joshua B. Whann

Promotions
Master Sgt. Patrick L. Morris
Master Sgt. Robert A. Phillips
Gunnery Sgt. Guss L. Alexander
Gunnery Sgt. Toby W. Boyce
Staff Sgt. Alejandro Solis Jr.
Sgt. Christopher E. Highcock
Sgt. David A. Salazar
Cpl. Israel Ausua Jr.
Cpl. Nicholas L. Mainini
Cpl. Vincente Munoz Jr.
Cpl. Kevin J. O
Lance Cpl. Ernest E. Burchell
Lance Cpl. Nguyen K. Le
Lance Cpl. Richard Martinez Jr.
Lance Cpl. Brenda Perez

Marine Corps Air Facility
Promotions
Gunnery Sgt. George E. Berger
Gunnery Sgt. Adrian L. Church
Cpl. Richard Anaya
Cpl. James M. Jerome
Cpl. Timothy D. Wolf



SERGEANTS COURSE GRADS

Sgts. Course honor grads
Class 3-01
March 6 - April 19

Honor Graduate
Sgt. S.L. Gordon
1st Rad. Bn.

Second Place
Sgt. J.M. Hennagin
1st Rad. Bn.

Third Place
Sgt. B.M. Gryn 3rd Marines

Gung Ho Award
Sgt. M.L. Bellino 3rd Marines

Sgt. Maj. Of the Marine Corps Writing Awards
1st Place
Sgt. B.M. Gryn 3rd Marines

Runner up
Sgt. J.M. Hennagin 1st Rad. Bn.

Honorable Mention
Sgt. T.M. Murray MarForPac

Instructor of the Quarter
SSgt. Jesse D. McGuire



COURTS MARTIAL

• A gunnery sergeant with Headquarters Bn., MCB Hawaii was charged for violation of Article 120 of the UCMJ, rape of a person under 16 years of age, Article 125, sodomy with a child under 16 years of age, and Article 134, indecent acts upon a female under 16 years of age.

The Marine was awarded a dishonorable discharge, confinement for 30 years, and reduction to private.

• A private first class with HQBn., MCB Hawaii, was charged with violation of Article 81, wrongfully conspiring to distribute lysergic acid diethylamide, methylenedioxymethamphetamine and cocaine; Article 92, failing to obey a lawful order; Article 112, wrongful use of LSD and wrongful distribution of LSD, wrongfully distributing methamphetamines, cocaine, and marijuana; and Article 134, wrongfully breaking restriction.

The Marine was awarded a dishonorable discharge, confinement for 30 months, forfeitures of all pay and allowances, and reduction to private.

• A private first class with 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment was charged with violation of Article 86 of the UCMJ, unauthorized absence for seven months and Article 87, missing movement by design.

The Marine was awarded a bad conduct discharge and confinement for 56 days.

• A seaman with 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, was charged with five counts of violation of Article 121, larceny; four counts of violation of Article 123, forgery; and four counts of violation of Article 134, false utterance.

The Sailor was awarded a bad conduct discharge, confinement for 180 days and reduction to seaman recruit.

• A lance corporal with Combat Service Support Group 3, was charged with violation of Article 81, conspiracy; Article 107, giving a false official statement; and Article 121, larceny.

The Marine was awarded a bad conduct discharge, confinement for 55 days, forfeitures of \$500 per month for two months, and reduction to private.

• A lance corporal with 1st Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, was charged with violation of Article 85, desertion. The Marine plead guilty to the lesser offense of UA.

The Marine was awarded confinement for 60 days and reduction to the rank of private first class.